

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the subject application. The final Office Action of August 14, 2002, and the Advisory Action of November 19, 2002 have been received and contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1-56 are currently pending in this application. Reconsideration and reexamination of this application is respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-5, 7-22, 24, 26-33, 35-50, 52, and 54-56 under 35 USC § 103(a) *sic* as being unpatentable over *sic* Koma (US Patent No. 5,608,556) in view of Auman et al. (US Patent No. 6,139,926). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Independent claims 1 and 29 are allowable over the cited references at least for the reason that claims 1 and 29 recite a combination of elements including an electric field inducing window in said pixel region/electrode; and a photo-alignment layer having a pretilt angle on at least one of the first and second substrates, wherein the multi-domain effect is obtained by dividing each pixel into regions having one of shape of "+", "x", double "y", "↓", and the teeth of a comb.. None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection based on the combination of references. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection under 35 USC § 103(a) be withdrawn.

Moreover, claims 2-5, 7-22, 24, 26-28, 30-33, 35-50, 52, and 54-56 are allowable by virtue of their dependence on claims 1 and 29, which are believed to be allowable.

The Examiner rejected claims 6 and 34 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koma (US Patent No. 5,608,556) in view of Auman et al. (US Patent No. 6,139,926), and further in view of Koma et al., "No-Rub Multi-Domain TFT Using Surrounding-Electrode

Method”; rejected claims 23 and 25 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koma (US Patent No. 5,608,556) in view of Auman et al. (US Patent No. 6,139,926), and further in view of Bos et al. (US Patent No. 6,141,074); and rejected claims 51 and 53 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Koma (US Patent No. 5,608,556) in view of Auman et al. (US Patent No. 6,139,926), and further in view of Van De Witte (US Patent No. 5,936,692).

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

As discussed above, none of the cited references teaches or suggests the photo-alignment layer and one of the shapes as recited by at least claims 1 and 29. None of the cited references, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests this feature. Koma et al., Bos et al., and Van De Witte fail to cure the deficiencies of Koma and Auman et al. Applicants submit that claims 6, 23, 25, 34, 51, and 53 are allowable by virtue of their dependence on independent claims 1 and 29, which are believed to be allowable. Applicants respectfully request that the rejections under 35 USC § 103(a) be withdrawn.

Should the Examiner deem that a telephone conference would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7371.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

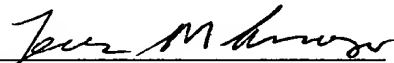
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If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

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Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS SHOWING CHANGES MADE
IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A multi-domain liquid crystal display device comprising:

- first and second substrates facing each other;
- a liquid crystal layer between said first and second substrates;
- a plurality of gate bus lines arranged in a first direction on said first substrate and a plurality of data bus lines arranged in a second direction on said first substrate to define a pixel region;
- an electric field inducing window in said pixel region; and
- a photo-alignment layer having a pre-tilt angle on at least one of the first and second substrates,

wherein the multi-domain effect is obtained by dividing the pixel region into areas having one of shape of "+", "x", double "y", "I", and the teeth of a comb.

29. (Amended) A multi-domain liquid crystal display device, comprising:

- first and second substrates facing each other;
- a liquid crystal layer between said first and second substrates;
- a plurality of gate bus lines arranged in a first direction on said first substrate and a plurality of data bus lines arranged in a second direction on said first substrate to define a pixel region;
- a pixel electrode on said first substrate;
- an electric field inducing window in said pixel electrode; and

a photo-alignment layer having a pretilt angle on at least one of the first and second substrates,

wherein the multi-domain effect is obtained by dividing the pixel region into areas having one of shape of "+", "x", double "y", "J", and the teeth of a comb.